

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COLUMBIA DIVISION

John Doe,	)	C/A No. 3:18-161-TLW-PJG
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	<b>ORDER</b>
	)	
University of South Carolina; Harris Pastides;	)	
Alisa Leggett; Carl Wells; Dennis Pruitt,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

This is a civil action filed by a *pro se* litigant. Under Local Civil Rule 73.02(B)(2) (D.S.C.), pretrial proceedings in this action have been referred to the assigned United States Magistrate Judge.

**PAYMENT OF THE FILING FEE:**

Plaintiff submitted an Application to Proceed in District Court Without Prepaying Fees or Costs (Form AO240), which the court construed as a motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915. (ECF No. 3.) A review of the motion reveals that Plaintiff should be relieved of the obligation to prepay the full filing fee. Therefore, Plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is granted, subject to the court's right to require a payment if Plaintiff's financial condition changes, and to tax fees and costs against Plaintiff at the conclusion of this case if the court finds the case to be without merit. See Flint v. Haynes, 651 F.2d 970, 972-74 (4th Cir. 1981).

**TO PLAINTIFF:**

Plaintiff failed to sign the Forms USM-285 that he submitted, which are necessary for the authorization and issuance of service of process. **If Plaintiff does not follow the instructions below within the time permitted by this order, this case may be dismissed for failure to prosecute and failure to comply with an order of this court under Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.**

Under General Order In Re: Procedures in Civil Actions Filed by Non-Prisoner Pro Se Litigants, No. 3:07-mc-5015-JFA (D.S.C. Sept. 18, 2007), the undersigned is giving Plaintiff **twenty-one (21) days** from the date this order is entered (plus three days for mail time) to:

Sign the Forms USM-285 that have been returned to you. Plaintiff should sign where the form requests, "Signature of Attorney or other Originator . . . ." Return the signed forms to the court.

**The court will not authorize the issuance and service of process until the items specified above have been submitted and reviewed by the assigned Magistrate Judge.**

Plaintiff must place the civil action number listed above (C/A No. 3:18-161-TLW-PJG) on any document provided to the court pursuant to this order. **Any future filings in this case must be sent to the address below (901 Richland Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201).** All documents requiring Plaintiff's signature shall be signed with Plaintiff's full legal name written in Plaintiff's own handwriting. *Pro se* litigants shall *not* use the "s/typed name" format used in the Electronic Case Filing System. In all future filings with this court, Plaintiff is directed to use letter-sized (8½ inches by 11 inches) paper only, to write or type text on one side of a sheet of paper only and not to write or type on both sides of any sheet of paper. Plaintiff is further instructed not to write to the edge of the paper, but to maintain one inch margins on the top, bottom, and sides of each paper submitted.

Plaintiff is a *pro se* litigant. Therefore, Plaintiff's attention is directed to the following important notice:

You are ordered to always keep the Clerk of Court advised **in writing (901 Richland Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201)** if your address changes for any reason, so as to assure that orders or other matters that specify deadlines for you to meet will be received by you. If, as a result of your failure to comply with this order, you fail to meet a deadline set by this court, **your case may be dismissed for violating this order.** Therefore, if you have a change of address before this case is ended, you must comply with this order by immediately advising the Clerk of Court in writing of such change of address and providing the court with the docket number of all pending cases you have filed with this court. Your failure to do so will not be excused by the court.

**TO THE CLERK OF COURT:**

The Clerk of Court shall mail a copy of this order and the proper form documents to Plaintiff. If Plaintiff fails to provide the items specified above to the Clerk of Court within the period prescribed in this order, the Clerk of Court shall forward the file to the assigned United States Magistrate Judge for a recommendation. See In Re: Procedures in Civil Actions Filed by Non-Prisoner Pro Se Litigants, No. 3:07-mc-5015-JFA. If, however, Plaintiff provides this court with the items specified above, the Clerk of Court should forward the file to the assigned magistrate judge to determine if service of process should be authorized.

The Office of the Clerk of Court shall not enter any change of address submitted by Plaintiff which directs that mail be sent to a person other than Plaintiff unless that person is an attorney admitted to practice before this court who has entered a formal appearance.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



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Paige J. Gossett

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

January 22, 2018  
Columbia, South Carolina

*Plaintiff's attention is directed to the important warning on the next page.*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

### WARNING TO PRO SE PARTY OR NONPARTY FILERS

All documents that you file with the court will be available to the public on the internet through PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) and the court's Electronic Case Filing System. **CERTAIN *PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION* SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN OR SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM ALL DOCUMENTS BEFORE YOU SUBMIT THE DOCUMENTS TO THE COURT FOR FILING.**

Rule 5.2, Fed. R. Civ. P., provides for privacy protection of electronic or paper filings made with the court. Rule 5.2 applies to **ALL** documents submitted for filing, including pleadings, exhibits to pleadings, discovery responses, and any other document submitted by any party or nonparty for filing. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, a party or nonparty filer should not put certain types of an individual's personal identifying information in documents submitted for filing to any United States District Court. If it is necessary to file a document that already contains personal identifying information, the personal identifying information should be "**blacked out**" or **redacted** prior to submitting the document to the Clerk of Court for filing. A person filing any document containing their own personal identifying information **waives** the protection of Rule 5.2(a) by filing the information without redaction and not under seal.

1. Personal information protected by Rule 5.2(a):

**(a) Social Security and Taxpayer identification numbers.** If an individual's social security number or a taxpayer identification number must be included in a document, the filer may include only the last four digits of that number.

**(b) Names of Minor Children.** If the involvement of a minor child must be mentioned, the filer may include only the initials of that child.

**(c) Dates of Birth.** If an individual's date of birth must be included in a document, the filer may include only the year of birth.

**(d) Financial Account Numbers.** If financial account numbers are relevant, the filer may include only the last four digits of these numbers.

2. Protection of other sensitive personal information – such as driver's license numbers and alien registration numbers – may be sought under Rule 5.2(d)(Filings Made Under Seal) and (e) (Protective Orders).